

**REMARKS****I. Status of the Claims:**

Claims 12, 17-19 and 22-27 are currently pending. By this Amendment, claims 12 and 22 have been amended. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 12, 17-19 and 22-27 would be pending. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

**II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103:**

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cox et al. (US 5,381,013). Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hashimoto (US 6,956,605). Claims 12, 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seachman (US 4,281,254) in view of Hashimoto (US 6,956,605, hereinafter Hashimoto '605). Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seachman in view of Cox et al. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seachman in view of Hashimoto '605 as applied to claim 12, and further in view of Sayag (US 5,585,847). Claims 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seachman in view of Hashimoto '605 and further in view of Sayag as applied to claim 17, and further in view of Saito et al. (US 6,256,063). Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seachman in view of Cox et al. as applied to claim 12, and further in view of Hashimoto (US 4,910,599, hereinafter Hashimoto '599). Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seachman in view of Cox et al. as applied to claim 12, and further in view of Nagano (US 5,126,860).

Claim 22, as amended, is directed to an arrangement involving, in part, serially transferring the image signals in said first and second shift registers, in a low resolution mode, in accordance with three types of transfer pulses having different phases so as to add up two signals outputted from two adjacent elements during serially transferring the signals; and serially transferring the image signals in said first and second shift registers, in a high-resolution mode, in accordance with only two types of transfer pulses having different phases so as to output signals from said first and second pixel arrays without addition.

That is, as amended, the high-resolution mode is performed in accordance with only two types of transfer pulses having different phases (versus three types of transfer pulses with different phases for the low resolution mode). As such, the modes can be changed, for example, by inputting only two or three types of transfer pulses having different phases, whether or not the two signals outputted from two adjacent elements are added up during transferring the signals. For the Examiner's reference, an example is provided on page 23, lines 1-7 of the specification.

The cited references, individually or in combination, do not anticipate or render obvious at least this claimed aspect. Accordingly, claim 22 and its dependent claims are believed to be distinguishable over the cited references, individually or in combination. For similar reasons, claim 12 as amended and its dependent claims are also believed to be distinguishable over the cited references.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

**AUTHORIZATION**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4729.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4729.

Respectfully submitted,  
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